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INITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. FIRST NAMED INVENTOR APPLICATION NO. 7178-223 2599 10/603,347 06/25/2003 Andrew Egendorf EXAMINER 7590 03/02/2006 Clifford Chance US LLP FELTEN, DANIEL S 200 Park Avenue ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER New York, NY 10166-0153 3624

DATE MAILED: 03/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Receipt of the amendment filed November 08, 2005 is acknowledged. Claims 1-30 have been cancelled and 31-86 have been added.

Response to Amendment

2. Newly submitted claims 31-86 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: the claims recite a purchasing vendor and a selling vendor by a on-line service provider which is not the selling vendor

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 31-86 withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

3. The amendment filed on November 08, 2005 canceling all claims drawn to the elected invention and presenting only claims drawn to a non-elected invention is non-responsive (MPEP § 821.03). The remaining claims are not readable on the elected invention because they present limitation unrelated to the original claim.

Since the above-mentioned amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to reply, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel S. Felten whose telephone number is (571) 272-6742. The examiner can normally be reached on Flex.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on (571) 272-6747. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Daniel S Felten Examiner Art Unit 3624

DSF

January 20, 2006

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